



Boogie Woogie Turnarounds

A turnaround is a musical passage at the end of a chord progression which leads to the next section or a repeat of the same chord progression. In blues, this typically occurs in the last two measures of the 12 bar blues progression. The musical passage is typically an emphatic, "arrow" pointing you back to the top of the chord progression.

In this document I have included turnarounds for the keys of A, E, F and G. Notice that some of the turnarounds in keys A, E and G utilize open notes (notes that you don't fret) or open strings. Also notice that the turnarounds for the key of F do not use open notes. I've done this purposely so that you can transpose any of those F turnarounds up the fret board into other keys. Now that's not to say that you could not do the same for the other keys (A, E and G) that we have covered here. The guitar represents 12 notes by name, and then repeats every octave. I don't know about your guitar, but mine have six strings and 22 frets which equals 138 possible notes and thousands of melodic/chord possibilities. All that to say, these turnarounds are just scratching the surface of the different melodic and harmonic possibilities left for you to discover. So, another great exercise for you is to transpose those turnarounds with open notes into other keys with movable patterns. Some of you will have a harder time grasping this concept than others. For those of you willing to take the challenge, dig in deeper as the knowledge that you will gain would be difficult to teach in 1000 books.